

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
May 2, 2005 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: James Workman, Chairman, Cliff Pratt, Vice Chairman
Ben Moore, Virginia Bridle-Russell
James Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Attorney Mark Gearreald led the audience in the flag salute.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

With the upcoming summer events it was noted that volunteers are needed for the Seafood Festival and the Sand Sculpture Competition.

Congratulations were extended to Hampton's "Singing Cop", Mr. Bill Elliot on his 100th birthday last week.

III. APPOINTMENTS

1. Mrs. Arleen Andreozzi, Town Clerk Re: Request for budget adjustment

Mrs. Andreozzi cancelled her appointment for this evening, noting that she will make do with the budget allotted her department.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Retirement Payouts

Mr. Barrington reported that Finance Director Dawna Duhamel sent him a note in response to the question asked by Selectman Bridle-Russell concerning the budget for retirement payouts. During the default discussions, that amount was increased to \$309,888 in anticipation of additional retirements.

Hurd Farm Bonds

Mrs. Duhamel reported this morning that plans are being made for the Hurd Farm bond sale on June 14, 2005. Mr. Barrington said he also anticipates refinancing some of the town's older SRF bonds in order to be able to reduce the interest rates.

DRED/Transfer Station

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he consulted with Public Works Director John Hangen about DRED closing the doors at the transfer station when they are there on Sunday. He assured me that they are good about taking care of closing behind themselves. They have also agreed to report anyone trying to access the station while they are there.

Leased Parking

While working on the policy for leased parking spaces on the street, the Town Manager realized that the town is potentially talking about two different kinds of leases – a seasonal lease and a year-round lease. He is continuing to develop those documents.

Fuller Acres /Marsh Debris

Mr. Hangen reported that the chimney in the marsh at Fuller Acres appears to have been there for some time. The nearby house appears to have been recently renovated, and it does not have a chimney. The Town Manager has passed along a note to Ellen Goethel with the Conservation Commission to look at the situation and see if there are wetlands violations.

Questions of the ManagerKings Highway

Mr. Moore asked about the suggested public information session for the residents of Kings Highway in regard to the infrastructure project. Mr. Barrington said that has been scheduled for May 10th at the Lane Library beginning at 7:00 PM and the residents of that area have been notified. Mr. Moore said that he had a call regarding the overall scope of the project. Mr. Barrington said that the work will be done from 12th Street, going North. The work will lift the entire moratorium area, which begins at 6th Street.

Highland Avenue

Mr. Moore asked about the request from Aquarion Water to do work on Highland Avenue. The Board will need to schedule a discussion on that request.

Special Revenue Fund - Details

Mrs. Bridle-Russell pointed out that the balance in the SRF account for Private Details is now at \$143,452.97. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that amount should remain flat after this point since the town is not authorized to do any private details. Mr. Barrington said that was correct. Mr. Pratt asked if the Board is going to try and get use of that money for next year to offset taxes. Mr. Barrington said that he would recommend that be done.

Town Clock

Mr. Pratt said that he went up to see the clock at Mr. Webber's. It is not ready although it is coming along very well. He said that there is some welding remaining on the frame and Mr. Webber is hoping to have it ready for the end of the year. Mr. Pratt said that Harvey has done a wonderful job.

FEMA Storm Reimbursement

Mr. Workman noted that the Board of Selectmen had been copied on a meeting in regard to FEMA reimbursement for a snow storm. Mr. Barrington said that Mr. Mellin attended the meeting and the application for reimbursement is being prepared.

Town Surplus Auction

Mr. Workman asked about the annual town surplus materials auction. Mrs. Anderson noted that there is a large amount of material at the old town office. The lists will be put together for an auction to be held in June.

V. NEW BUSINESS**1. Certificates of Appreciation - Retirements**

The Board of Selectmen signed Certificates of Appreciation for the many years of service for the following employees: Fire Captain, Rusty Bridle; Firefighters Robert Thompson and David Weber; Police Detective Phillip Russell.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign the Certificates of Appreciation for the retiring employees.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

2. Extension of District Court Lease

Mr. Barrington said that the document the State sent over today asks for an extension to the current lease of up to nine months at the same rate they are currently paying for the District Court. Mr. Workman said that he has read in the newspaper that they have already found a temporary location and wondered why they were looking to extend the lease. Attorney Gearreald said that there is a perceived legislative issue with the temporary location in Seabrook that they wish to move to and he explained the language in the law that states that the Court shall be in Hampton. Attorney Gearreald pointed out a clause in the proposed

extension that indicates that the tenant and landlord are in agreement with the planned relocation and he is not sure that is true.

Attorney Gearreald said that a proposed location, the American Legion Hall, was not accepted by the State and the representatives of the Legion were not treated entirely appropriately in their negotiations with the State. He added that the court officials are now complaining about air quality, mold and animal invasions in the existing building, so this extension could require the Town having to spend money on the existing building that it may not be willing to do. Mr. Moore asked if the clause in the extension relating to the parties being in agreement on the planned relocation could be negotiated out. Mr. Moore said that since the Town wants to try and have the Court's permanent location in Hampton, he is not in favor of playing hardball with them at this time. Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked if the State Representatives have determined if there is still a chance to negotiate for the long-term or if it is a done deal with a consolidated court being located in Seabrook. Mrs. Bridle said that the Board also has to remember that the rent is income to the Town. Mrs. Bridle-Russell stated that the Board may have to tell them they can stay, but that we are not going to do any work to the building. Mr. Pratt said that he has reservations about anyone walking into that building. He said that he thinks the Town is putting itself at a big risk allowing that building to be used, but he did not know the town can get out of it. Attorney Gearreald said that the Board should add a few clauses and subtract at least one clause to this proposed extension. Mr. Pratt said that he is worried that the Town will be liable if something happens in that building given it's current condition. Mr. Workman said that the Board should do everything it can to keep the Court in this Town and should do everything possible to make this amendment agreeable to both parties.

Mr. Moore asked if a meeting has been scheduled with the Exeter Board of Selectmen. Mr. Barrington said that he has been talking with Mr. Dean, but nothing has been scheduled at this date. He added that he does not know if the Police Chief's have held a meeting to discuss the consolidation with the other towns. Mr. Workman noted that he has confirmed with Mr. Ingram that Hampton will host the next meeting.

2006 Budget

Mr. Moore noted that the year is quickly going by and one of the things he would like to discuss is what the Board wants to do about the Special Revenue funds for next year. He said that decision being made in advance of budget preparations will make that process go smoother. Mr. Moore asked if August would be timely for the Board of Selectmen to have a workshop on the budget. Mr. Barrington said that he will look at schedules and thought that it would be appropriate to do that in late July or early August.

Police Facility Open House

Mr. Moore asked about the status of the open house at the police facility. Mr. Barrington said that the chief was not at the staff meeting last week and word was sent back to him through the Lieutenant that was present. Mr. Barrington will follow up with Chief Wrenn.

V. MINUTES

The minutes of April 25, 2005 were approved as presented.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Entertainment Permit – Boardwalk Inn & Cafe

Mrs. Bridle-Russell MOTIONED that the consent agenda be approved.

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Moore MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (7:30 PM)

Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman

